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2025 ELECTIONS

For town moderator: Philip Frattaroli

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

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Philip Frattaroli. COURTESY PHOTO

How many years have you lived in Winchester? I have lived in Winchester more than half of my life. My family moved here when I was a kid. I went off to college, but came back with my wife Kelly to raise our fam

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Please describe your professional background and education. I am a graduate of Winchester High School, Boston College and Suffolk Law School. After law school, I opened two restaurants in Boston and in 2016 bought into my parents' restaurants, which include Ristorante Lucia in Winchester Center.

What Winchester town positions (appointed or elected) have you held, and for how long? I have served on Town Meeting for four years.

What are the primary issues motivating your candidacy? Town moderator is unique position in town government that's independent of policy issues. My roll will be to ensure that the Town Meeting follows proper parliamentary procedure and to facilitate fair and efficient discussion of the issues of the day.

My candidacy is motivated by a love of the Town Meeting. My mother, Anna, was elected to Town Meeting when I was in grade school so I was exposed to the unique tradition of a New England Town Meeting pretty early. I have fond memories of tuning in to Channel 19 when I was a kid and watching John Sullivan, who was Town Moderator for 37 years, was a dear family friend and a mentor to me when I was in law school. The love he had for Winchester and the joy he found in a spirited debate was inspiring.

Can you share any volunteer work or civic engagement experiences that have shaped your perspective and prepared you for this role? I was elected to the North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council when I lived in Boston, and served as its President for a few years, so I have experience with Robert's Rules of Order. I have also served on the Winchester Chamber of Commerce and the Children's Own School Board of Directors.

Moderator-specific questions

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Can you provide an example from your experience where you successfully managed a discussion on a contentious issue without bias? With four small children, I feel like I am always moderating heated discussions on contentious issues!

How would you ensure that debates on complex issues like zoning bylaws and financial appropriations are conducted efficiently while allowing for comprehensive discussion?
As a member of Town Meeting, I come to each session with an open mind, ready to be persuaded by the facts and discussion. As Moderator, it is my job to make sure all perspectives are heard and Town Meeting Members have all the information they need to make informed decisions.

How would you stay informed and adapt to ensure meetings are conducted effectively with evolving technologies and potential changes in meeting procedures? Luckily most of the meetings of town goernment are broadcast by WinCam and available on YouTube. I will, of course, also keep tabs on Winchester News!

Have questions for Philip? Contact him at philipfrattaroli@gmail.com.

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2025 ELECTIONS

NEWS

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Write-in votes, Winchester election results now final

Election 2025 is now over. The results from the March 22 townwide elections have been certified by the Town Clerk's office. Town Clerk MaryEllen Marshall released the final numbers March 27, with 17.3% of Winchester residents casting a vote in the election, or 2,951 votes, out of

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March 27, 2025

Newcomers win spots on Winchester Select Board, School Committee

It was the perfect Election Day — warm and sunny, with a steady stream of residents going into Winchester High School to cast their ballots. Preliminary results for the March 22 townwide election show 17.2 % of residents voted on Saturday. That's 2,933 votes cast, out of the town'

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NEWS

Winchester Planning Board write-ins emerge ahead of Saturday election

Winchester voters head to the polls Saturday for municipal elections featuring contested races for Select Board and School Committee alongside an unexpected development — two write-in candidates vying for a Planning Board seat that initially have no contenders on the ballot. The March 22 election will take place at Winchester High

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March 21, 2025

NEWS

Philip Frattaroli to be Winchester's 12th town moderator since 1915

It's a foregone conclusion. Philip Frattaroli will be Winchester's next town moderator. Sure, the townwide election is just days away, but Frattaroli is running unopposed for the seat being vacated by Heather von Mering, who has been in the role since March 2020. "I decided to take it

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March 20, 2025

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Latest

EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

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By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

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